

RECKLESS RALPH'S

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Published by Ralph F. Cummings, Box 75, Fisherville, Mass., U. S. A.

Price \$1.00 per year or ten cents a copy.

Ad. rates—1c per word, 25c per inch (about 30 words), Quarter page \$1.00, Half page \$1.75, Full page \$3.00. Display adverts., 50c per inch.

Four consecutive insertions for the price of three.

Vol. 10

April, 1942

No. 115

HARKAWAY, MERRIWELL, ETC.

Bracebridge Hemyng wrote about 60 Harkaway stories and probably he might be pardoned in making some literary slips or bungles, but some are very glaring, almost enough to hurt a person's mental eyes. I have his first series printed by Tousey in the Wide Awake Library, and at the end (Young Jack Harkaway Among the Counterfeiters) he says Jack, Sr. is old, Professor Mole is dead, Young Jack happily married, etc. Then the second series is written and tells of Young Jack's wife dying in England, and he is married again before he gets back home, his trip through Asia, etc. Hemyng comes over to New York and writes the third series which tells of the second Young Jack who is born because the other Jack was lost at sea on the Arethusa. Yet, in some other story he says Jack's mother dies of grief over his death. On another story he tells of the first Young Jack turning up as "a bronzed youth" safe from being saved at sea and being a prisoner somewhere, and his full adventures "will sometime be told," but so far as I ever found that story was never told. Hemyng made one ferocious blunder when he told of Harkaway scuttling around in the Atlantic ocean near Cuba, and then miraculously bobs up among Chinese pirates a few pages further on. He tells of Professor Mole losing a leg below the knee and then the other, and getting patent cork legs, and before the end of the stories Mole has his original legs back again as if he had never lost them. Tousey printed the first and second series of Harkaways in Wide Awake Library as five-centers. Donohue in Chicago printed the first series in 15 books.

Street & Smith printed them in 25 books, and the third series in 9 books, and later the whole set of 34 into 28 books and changed the titles, and never printed the second series. Hemyng goes back to England and writes a fourth series of which I have the names of two, "Jack Harkaway in the Transvaal," and "Jack Harkaway's Boy Scouts." I read part of one of his stories in "Boys of England," a small 16 page paper about 1879, "Hal Harkforward and Tom Tallyho's Schooldays."

Gilbert Patten wrote the "Rockspur" series in three books, "Rivals," "Nine," and "Eleven" and the last three of six promised were never written. These three were in "Golden Hours" as written by "Harry Dangerfield," and in Medal Library by Burt L. Standish. Standish or Patten made a big literary what-you-call-it, in jumping young Merriwell from six to sixteen years old and leaving everything else the same till he gets to Fardale Academy and then he finds Col. Gunn, a middle-aged man, as successor to his father the old Professor "long since dead," but as Dick young Frank's uncle is only a young man not yet 25, and had attended Fardale and had traveled some with the Professor around the world, only a few years before, this lapse of what-you-call-it, is fearful. Professor Gunn's boy is a baby when Dick is at Fardale. I understand Patten has written a book called "Mr. Frank Merriwell," up to date, and young Frank is a war correspondent, and has a sister 18 years old called "Bart," I suppose honoring her father's old chum, Bart Hodge, former foe at Fardale, young Frank's middle name being Hodge.

The early nickle libraries I remember had no colored pictures on the cover and some had no cover. If I remember rightly the most of the libraries during first World War had no covers and certainly no colors. That "Nickle Library" printed in Chicago in the '70's and later in New York never had covers, but had front page picture. Stories were by T. C. Harbaugh, Frank Dumont, Marline Manly, Wm. R. Eyster, as far as I can name, the authors also wrote for The Weekly Novelist printed by same firm.

I guess this is enough for the time being, of The Old Man's recollections.

U. G. Figley, Bryan, Ohio

NOVELNUT NONSENSE

OUR APOLOGIES: We erred when reporting that Bro. Austin ran amuck recently. His landlady is running-off poundage and borrowed our Brother's breech-clout for ten strenuous minutes. Uncle Charlie has had his say and we gather that we are a button-nosed moron and a doxhop. When he gets warmed up he does pretty well.

ON DISCOVERING that Sioux scalps possess rare weather-resisting qualities, Bro. Moran, the Oakland Indian Hater, has plugged the leaks in his hen-house roof with them. No more scalps for sale, trade, or rent.

BY RIGIDLY ADHERING to his rule of never working between meals, Bro. Sautter has avoided medical attention for 82 years. Congratulations, Brother.

WE UNDERSTAND that Bro. Lamb, who has been reading Law in the office of Judge Beetles, has been taken into the firm of SCRUGGS, BOTTS, SQUIGGS & TUBBS. Clarence has ROUND-UP'S felicitations. His future is assured.

WANTED: Novels to read. Must be sanguinary. Address Bro. Johanssen.

(Advt.)

STATISTICS: Bro. Ralph Smith's "SANCTUARY" now houses 43 cats and 2401 kittens, and all signs point to more kittens. Ralph feels encouraged.

AN AGGRAVATED case of mumps which attacked Bro. Brewer, had made his mouth look like he was whistling. Don sucks nourishment through a straw. Our sympathy.

A TESTIMONIAL from Bro. Burns, attributes the loss of his neck-boils

and also the reappearance of ringlets of curls to BRAGIN'S TRIPLE-EXTRACT of whistle-berries and skunk-cabbage. Bill's head once looked like a peeled onion.

SHERLOCK HOLMES, that sword of justice and scourge of crime, has, through brilliant sleuthing, deduced that it was Bro. Linville's goat, Prudence, who ate the tail off a neighbors peacock. Carl has compromised the matter with a gallon of goat-milk. Nice work, Harold.

WHEN, AS AN INFANT, Bro. Ball tumbled off the piano and onto his bean, he developed a musical-bump. This hitherto unsuspected passion for melody was evidenced when John bought a grind-organ as a hedge against hard-times after the War. He is now searching for a monkey. Call on US, Jack.

SUGAR PRIORITIES: Can it indeed have been Bro. Messier who was observed attempting to gyp a stick of sugar-pep'mint from a kid in a push-cart? EH!, EH! How **COULD** you? At any rate the unyie'ding infant clung to its sugar-stick.

OUR GOOD Bro. Frye advises that Mary Ann Gash has now over \$100.00 in Bank, and that "while Mary ain't no Venus, that's a lot of gray". It won't be long now.

IF HE HAD NOT believed himself owner of the **WHITE HOUSE**, it would never have happened, but Bro. Randlett is back at his cobbler's-bench again with a far-away look in his eyes. Well! Well! And welcome home, John. Greetings!

WARLIKE NOTE: We understand that our famous naturalist, Bro. Miller, has purchased a pair of spurs and a large sword. As is well known, Cleve's physical strength is common talk. When he hits anyone they land in China. We can now perceive the end of this war. Of such stuff are heroes fashioned.

TIME CALLED: All in favor will give the Club's high-sign, i.e. hold their noses. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Wanted — Yankee Blade, Yankee Notions, American Publishers, and Early American Comic Magazines.— Franklin J. Meine, 1422 No. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.

Wanted—Beadles Dime Novels, fine condition. Win Targ, 335 So. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

NEWSY NEWS

by Ye Editor

We have sad news from James Madison, that his dear wife passed to the great beyond a short time ago, and also of the passing of Leonard C. Leighter, 89 Perkin St., Brockton, Mass., early last fall. God bless the both of them.

A prayer of sympathy
Across the void of grief,
We send a fervent prayer
That God will bidè with you
And bless you all in your care.

F.P.C.

What became of all the copyrights of the serial stories published by James Eleverson of Phila, Pa. The publisher of Golden Days and Saturday Night?

Bro. Herm Pitcher, Lake City, Fla., says he hasn't had a card yet from anyone having any of the Braeme Novels he wants. He hopes some one will rally to his aid, since he's writing a Life of the Author. He will buy or exchange.

Now for old timers, makes a guy's mouth water, doesn't it? Chaney's Union Novels No. 3, dark yellow covers, same size as any old dime novel, sold for 10c, published monthly, 1866. 100 pages, a few illustrations, besides a picture on the front cover, which shows a man crawling on his hands and knees on the ground near a hay stack, with another man in the act of hitting the man on the ground with an ax. Looks like foul play.

At the top of the picture, where it says Chaney's Union Novels is the picture of a man, of which I wonder if it is a picture of W. H. Chaney himself? Title of story is "Milo, The Gypsy or The Fatal Oath" by W. H. Chaney. Published by Chaney and Williams, 46 Ann St., New York, N.Y.

V. Valta Parma, formerly Curator of the Rare Book Division of the Library of Congress, died at his home in Washington, D. C., on August 31st, 1941, at the age of 62 years. He had been ill for several weeks. Mr. Parma was director of the Rare Book Room from 1927 to 1940, being the first person to occupy this position. He organized the program for collecting into one place from the far-scattered shelves of the Library of Congress all the rare material the Library owned from incunabula to old yellowbacks. He was particularly proud of having

brought together in one alcove 10,000 children's books chronologically arranged. Mr. Parma was born in New York and graduated from Hamilton College in 1914.

Brother French appreciates the generous spirit of the "Novelnut Nonsense" editor in intimating, even jokingly, that his collection is in the class of Brother Bragin's. He (Bro. French) admits that he has a "darn" good variety, probably at least a few copies of nearly every kind ever published, but as for quantity, he lays no claim to the honor of being placed even among the first dozen collectors. George recently enjoyed the fun of looking over Mrs. Bragin's dime novel exhibit at the Hearn auditorium in New York, and came away all "het up" over several rare ones that he saw and has wanted for years. Says he, "The boys have got to go some to prevent being lapped when up against two dime novel sprinters in the same family."

George Lippard, a writer of prominence, was born in West Nantmeal, Chester county, Pa., April 10th, 1822 and died Feb. 9th, 1854, and interred in the Odd Fellows Cemetery. He was the founder of the "Brotherhood of the Union," and by them a beautiful monument was erected at Odd Fellows Cemetery. Mr. Lippard wrote quite a few novels, such as "Monks of the Wissahikan," and others.

"Frank Merriwell Marks 46th Fictional Birthday," appeared in the Worcester Sunday Telegram (a Massachusetts newspaper) March 15, 1942. There is a nice picture of Gilbert Patten himself, also picture of Tip Top Weekly No. 183. Title, Frank Merriwell at Yale Again. The article mentions Chas. Bragin, Albert Johannsen, George Hess, Ye Editor, and others, as well as nice writeup on Mr. Patten, Burt L. Standish and himself. Any one wanting a copy, send 10c to Ye Editor of the Roundup, and he'll send it to you. It's very interesting.

Have you heard of the big novel sale in New York? I guess it didn't go over as good as the last one.

Earle Barr Hanson says that he would like to add a little bit to Harold Holmes fine article, Do and Dare. Earle would like to add to his survey of thick book reprints that the very first reprinting occurred in "Bound to Win Library" (Nos. 29 31 33 35 82 89

93 and two later numbers not in my catalog).

A WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY DINNER

From Life of Ned Buntline—1881

They slew a gobbler, grim and old,
That never told a lie,
They used a hatchet, fierce and bold,
They saw that gobbler die
They boiled it long, they boiled it hard,
They baked the "critter" down,
Four hours they cooked—believe your bard—

To do that Turkey brown.
With fresh oysters from Dorlans stand,
They stuffed the ancient fowl.
With butter sweet from Elgins land,
They basted that old owl
T'was garnished well with parsley shred,

And baked with Viands rare,
But we who "chawed" some tear drops shed,

While others loud did swear.
They said on far off Aarat
Old Noah dumped that bird
And all this time it took to fat
Perhaps the grumblers erred,
But this we know, the toughest course
We e'er had tried to masticate
With jaws once used to mule or worse
Was left upon our dinner plate.

By Fred E. Pond—Will Wildwood
(Sent in by Charles Austin)

PARTIAL LIST OF 1942 MEMBERS OF H. H. B.

46. Patrick Mulhall, Co. Kilkenny, Castlecomer, Ireland.
47. George H. Cordier, 148 W. 51st St., Los Angeles, Calif.
55. Ralph F. Adimari, home address, 39 N. 5th Ave., Mt. Vernon, N.Y. Address of place he works, 3904 8th St., Washington, D. C.
59. Capt. C. G. Mayo, Supply Department, Navy Yard, Brooklyn, N. Y.
79. Fred P. Pitzer, 41 Woodlawn Ave., Jersey City, N. J.
97. Ross Crawford, 129 Carliss Ave., Pelham, N. Y. (new address).
101. Alan E. Schaeffer, 113 Cherry St., Myerstown, Pa.
132. L. D. Webster, 124 Tompkins St., Cortland, N. Y. (new address).
56. Frank M. Harris, P. O. Box 85, Ashland, N. H.

34 Numbers Ladies Repository Mag., 1851-66, very scarce, Each 50c; Also Chicago Times, 7 numbers for 1874, the 7 for \$2.00. Full of interesting items, and worth much more than what I'm asking.

U. G. FIGLEY

Route 1,

Bryan, Ohio

Either cash or good trade offered for No. 1 of Dave Fearless series No. 1 of Fries Frank Reade Library Magazine, No. 33 of Merriwell Series or Burt L. Standish Library.

EARLE BARR HANSON

120 S.W. 8th Ave., Miami Florida

W. C. Miller, 822 W. Gramercy St., San Antonio, Texas, wants—Log Cabin Library, Nos. 403, 405, 408, 411, 412, 413, 420, 436; True Blue Nos. 1, 8, 9, 12, 15, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 36.

Wanted—Buffalo Bill Stories, #276, 278. Col. Charles D. Randolph, 2108 E. 13th St., Davenport, Iowa.

Have lots of Novels to trade, send me your list and I'll send you mine. Can also use stamps, railroad tickets, etc. See my new address, which is—

L. D. WEBSTER

124 Tompkins St., Cortland, N. Y.

Wanted—Diamond Dick Jr. Weeklies and Diamond Dick Libraries, also the James Boys Weeklies. Albert Stone, 88 Norfolk Ave., Swampscott, Mass.

Wanted—Frank Reade Stories in any Library. What have you? Norman M. Ogilvie, 611 Summit Ave., St. Paul, Minn.

WANTED

An old "Stanley Steamer," automobile, in good running order. Who has one?

Write to

FRANK M. HARRIS

P. O. Box 85,

Ashland, N. H.

Dime Novel Catalogue, illustrated. Free for stamped, addressed envelope. R. Bragin, 1525 W. 12th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ranch Romances are the only magazine that has a real Western flavor. Get your Copy now. On the newstands twice a month.

OLD STORY PAPERS

Jack Harkaways were printed in Frank Leslie's Boys' Magazine, and Girls' and Boys' Weekly, the last in 1878 "Jack Harkaway on the Isle of Palms." Other Heming stories were also printed. Street & Smith printed 15 in one of their libraries, but the sequel to "Spider and Stump" was not printed for some reason, and parts of the Harkaway stories have been cut, especially in the one mentioned, a whole chapter out. Street & Smith printed the first and third series but not the second, first in 34 books and then in 28. Some years ago a Chicago newspaper printed as a serial a "new" one "Jack Harkaway's Son."

Beadle & Adams' "Young New Yorker" featured boys athletics quite a bit. Their Saturday Journal was sometimes the Star Journal, sometimes Beadle's Weekly. I read a lot of their little 100 page yellow backed "Dime Novels" 65 years ago.

Street & Smith printed "Boys of the World" in the 70's and long later a 16-page "Golden Hours" for some years.

In 1879 Dick & Fitzgerald started "New York Boys" which lasted some years.

In 1880 another firm started "The Boys Champion" that didn't last long.

In Philadelphia "National Family Story Paper" reprinting much from "Saturday Night" lasted awhile about 50 years ago, as did "Emerson Bennett's Weekly" after that famous old timer quit "Saturday Night."

I think the "Ornum" novels in New York were printed by one of the Munro's—name reversed.

In the 70's Tousey & Small, 116 Nassau St., New York, printed Young Men of America, Boys of New York, Our Boys, N. Y. Boys Weekly, and the last two were stopped and in 1878-9 were printed 33 numbers of the Boys Leader, much taken from English boys' papers. George G. Small dropped out of the firm, but kept on writing under his own name and as Capt. Geo. Granville, U. S. A., A. U. S. Detective and the famous comics by "Bricktop" and Peter Pad. A Police Gazette sort of paper, "Under the Gaslight" was issued from the same office number, but I never saw it. Frank Tousey printed another Boys' Weekly awhile, 16 pages and much reprint of old Boys' Weekly. He finally

stopped the old papers and started "Happy Days," 16 pages, same style paper.

Street & Smith printed Navy stories by "Cadet Clark Fitch, U. S. N." and West Point stories by "Lieut. Frederick Garrison, U. S. A." all written by Sinclair Lewis when he was about 17.

Lu Senarens began when about 14 to write for Tousey, using a number of nom de plumes, all good stories.

Pictorial Printing Co., Chicago, in 70's printed 5 by 7, 32 pages, Nickel Library and Weekly Novelist, all being moved to New York finally.

Tousey in 1879 started "The Arm Chair," much from English papers, making it into 16 pages, before it was stopped.

I have the original Merriwell's, 123 numbers of the Medal Library, the rest in Tip Top and its successor, Wide Awake Magazine.

U. G. Figley,
Bryan, Ohio.

FOR SALE

Get your copy of the Hobby Reporter now, for March 1940, on "Old Dime Novels, 10c. Very interesting.

"Opinions of the Press," on Malaeska, first of the Beadles Dime Novels, June 15, 1860, 10c.

We still have lots of the Merriwell and New Magnet Libraries left.

How to Get Strong, 1879, 25c.

Muscular Exercises, 25c.

Fox's Army Exercises, 1904, 25c.

Wehman's Sports and Pastimes, 15c.

Physical Culture, 1899, Vol. 1, Nos. 1 to 6, bound, fair., \$1.00.

Hoyle's Games of the Standard Authority, 229 pages, 15c.

Victor Record Catalogues for 1915, 1920, 1938, at 60c each, 1923 no covers 10c.

Farewell Nikola by Guy Boothby, 1901, illustrated, fine, bound in blue cloth, London, price \$1.00.

The Boys Own Annual for Oct. 6, 1894 to Sept. 28, 1895. Nos. 821 to 872 has some colored pictures in it. Well illustrated, bound, some pages loose, but all there. Price \$2.00, and worth it, too.

Ralph F. Cummings
Fisherville, Mass.

GREAT NEWS OF THE NOVEL WORLD

By Eli A. Messier
Woonsocket, R. I.

The great P. T. Barnum, of museum fame, also made local appearances. In December, 1854, he spoke before a local audience in old Armory hall, a building which was later raised to add a second story and is now the Bernon street fire station.

Barnum's circus made periodical visits here. Its tent was usually pitched on the property now occupied by the Woonsocket Rubber company. Barnum made an exception to his usual rule when he traveled to Woonsocket along with his circus, in 1876, and appeared personally in the show as a special attraction.

Penny Dreadful Books Go to British Museum

The world's most complete collection of "penny dreadfuls," including "Sweeney Todd," "Springheeled Jack" and "Black Bess, or The Knight of the Road," have been bequeathed to the British Museum in the will of Barry Ono, the comedian who died at Barnstable, England, says the U. P.

He started collecting them 50 years ago, when he would cover them with brown paper and loan them out to friends.

Today, the collection is valued at \$20,000.

First Chair Execution

Q. Who was the first criminal to die in the electric chair?

T. G. E.

A. The first criminal to be executed by electricity was William Kemm'ler on August 6, 1890 at Auburn Prison, New York.

Lincoln on Himself

Q. Please give Lincoln's description of himself.

S.P.T.

A. At the age of fifty, he wrote: "If any personal description of me is thought desirable, it may be said I am in height six feet four inches, nearly; lean in flesh, weighing, on an average, one hundred and eighty pounds; dark in complexion, with coarse black hair and gray eyes. No marks or brands recollected."

FOR SALE

Take your pick fellows, all Novels are without front or back covers, and all in good readable condition, at 10c each, or 12 for \$1.00:

Pluck & Luck—#263 498 381 445 279
516 655 478 362 216 855 293 113 4 6

256 412 665 253 105 464 531 701 549

16 698 509 200 671 599 194 125.

American Indian Weekly—#30.

Wide Awake Weekly—#42.

Do & Dare—#57.

Buffalo Bill Stories—#286 211 271 182

351 317 406 62 54 563 497 544 498 487

483 80 21.

Tip Top—#213 216 197 146 50 191 235

37 260 241 20 42 48 51 184 191 145 153

188 245.

Diamond Dick, Jr.—#363 139 240 591

158 107 490.

Young Rover Library—#19.

Nick Carter Weekly—#212 48 267 169

41 100 23 99 104 155 161 163 197 535

377 598 601 678 339 315 332.

Comrades—#44 34 47.

Secret Service—#193 997.

Do & Dare—#31 63 57 49 54.

Work & Win—#42 128 185 160 171 225

43 195 130 683.

Liberty Boys of '76—#40 384 118 117

377 122 521 104 102 103 855 99.

Wild West Weekly—#280 385 769 28

818.

Brave & Bold—#240 62 374 411 204

267 197 182 409 424 22 18 33 50 49 8 11.

Snaps—#8.

Red, White & Blue—#4.

New Top Top Weekly—#112 27 105 94

88 86 83 81 79 34 77 105.

Tip Top—#472 475 555 480 501 818 684

715 792 407 431 302 588 584 598 592

564 533 530 761 783 784 788 487 486

484 837 838 558 551 500 558 523 537

509 527 517 444 599 496 845 560 561

572 547 625 708 679 322 714 716 709

714 712.

Nick Carter Stories—#2 7 160 113.

Fame & Fortune—#363 336 898 191 2.

Up to Date Boys Library—#4.

New Buffalo Bill Weekly—#144 153

151 130 131 2 145 206 303 321 219 218

135 122 131 132 121 136 150 155 208

104 94 93 96 97. and others.

Young Rough Riders—#9 12 49 69 79

128.

Motor Stories—20 23 25 30 11.

Night & Main—#17 65 26.

Bowery Boy—#62.

Ralph F. Cummings
Fisherville, Mass.

LAST MINUTE NEWS

Bro. Leonard C. Leichter, 89 Perkins St., Brockton, Mass., died October 11th, 1941. He was Member No. 57. He was a graduate of a military prep school in Washington and Columbia University. He was also an outstanding pianist. His father is a composer of symphonies and choral music. So you see he had much to live for with his books and music and his good friends in the Brotherhood.

Last summer he wanted to come out and visit Ye Editor, Cummings for a couple of weeks' vacation, but his health prevented him from making the trip. He wanted to come so badly.

As a fellows says, when our time comes, we must be ready to go, but not many of us are ready, and besides with all our aches and pains, life is still very sweet and dear to us.

Cody, Wyoming

Q. What is the name of the town in Wyoming where there is a memorial to Buffalo Bill? G.A.M.

A. Cody, Wyoming, is named after the famous plainsman and the town has also memorialized him with a large bronze equestrian statue executed by Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney.

FOR SALE—NICK CARTER WEEKLY

Small Size—Nos.: 43 156 158 161 166 179 184 188 189 192 193 194 195 196 198 199 200 206 207 214.

Large Size—Nos.: 296 374 523 526 533.

WANTED

Small Size—Nos.: 48 49 56 73 81 83 87 88 89 93 94 95 96 97 100 102 105 111 112 115 124 126 128 131 132 136 144 162 172 176 177.

Large Size—Nos.: 244 290 291 292 294 297 309 310 317 322 324 327 330 770.

HAROLD C. HOLMES

672 Chapel St., New Haven, Conn.

WANTED

National Geographic Magazines for 1888 to 1905; St. Nicholas, Oct. 1906; Munseys, Feb. 1915; McClures, May 1898; Lippincottes, July 1890; Cosmopolitan, April 1900; Century, Oct. 1886, Jan. 1892; Harpers Monthly, April 1888, April, July and Aug. 1894.

Address

L. H. DUNN, Ovid, N. Y.

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for \$1.75.

Life of Quantrel, Jesse James Chief in the Civil War—\$1.00.

Both for \$1.60 Postpaid.

Both like new.

Valley Book Co.

Fisherville, Mass.

Wanted—Can you supply any of (Hunter's of Hinsdale, N. H.) The Star Spangled Banner, pub. in the 50's and 60's. Let us know. A. W. Davidson, 50 Congress St., Boston, Mass.

"Forest Run's—Poems of Nessmuk," by George Sears, a noted Maine Woodsman in the 1880's. Price \$1.50. E. A. Brininstool, 330 N. Poinsettia Place, Hollywood, Calif.

WANTED

"Bats in the Wall, or The Mystery of Trinity Church Yard." Published in Boys of New York and No. 502 in New York Detective Library. Name your best price, or what you want in exchange.

L. MORGAN

3018 25th St. N. E.

Washington, D. C.

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Fisherville, Mass.

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